EFFECTS OF CITY LIFE.

ITS DEGENERATING INFLUENCE OVER THE HUMAN RACE.

Rapid Increase in the Number of People Engaged in Sedentary Occupations-Santtary linies Ignored by the Masses-Better Bouses Needed.

Writers have directed attention to the grave problem of city life and its condition as affeeting the race. They point to the tremer tions influx of country life which takes place yearly into London and other great centers of population, and they tell us that the city owes its chief vitality to this infusion of fresh, healthy blood into its masses. But in time these infusions will be affected by the prevalent causes of town degeneration; and the great mill of life continues to grind us flown, slowly, it is true, but to grind us out In time (say the playsiologists) altogether,

Of course, the causes of the degeneracy which city life is said to effect are to be found in the generally unhealthy conditions under which existence is pursued. Pure food, pure air med pure water form the triped of life in so far as our surroundings are con-cerned; and it is precisely these conditions which are typically represented in our great centers. As to house accommodation, it is enly of Inte years we have been awaking to the ideas that it is nothing short of disgracean ordinary pig ty is cleanly and sanitary, is an extertionate, unjust and crying evil. SEDENTARY OCCUPATIONS.

The fact is that the moment we have to deal with masses of human beings, aggreguted together in cities and living under conditions which violate every rule of health, we come upon causes of physical degeneration which are too edvident to admit of theoretical modification, far less denial. An author has taken the trouble to total up for us the number of persons engaged in some half dozen sedentary occupations in London in 1881. We find his figures to give us: Indoor domestic servants, 253,703; general laborers, 98,115; milliners, etc., 71,887; clerks, 60,605; tailors, 41,521, and expenters, 38,143. Thus, out of some 548,000 persons, about four-fifths Read an indoor dife, and of these, two-lifths (or 173,000 follow punely sedentary trades.

What sedentary life means to the units which follow it closely most of us may know, It implies the want of the first essential for healthy life-pure air-and it includes yet another condition of vitality-free and opes air exercise. Deterioration of frame in the one generation, we have also to note, in transmitted with tenfold force to the next. As tifully appointed little carriages. He was health is cumulative in its effects, so also are disease and degeneracy; so that the mere its influence upon the recent decrees has pursuit of life and life's avocations in a big been very considerable. The old reactioncity must, in the cases of sedentary workers, be attended not only by an increasing lack of vitality, but by a transmission of the weakness to succeeding units. And there comes a point in this hanging on of feeble health, says the sanitarian, when the climax is reached in the shape of the absolute dying out of the enfectied stock.

STABILING MORTAGITY, The author from whom I have already quoted reminds us that if we treat London as a kind of country or area by itself we find that out of every 1,000 persons in London 371 are country born. An immigration of 37 per cent, thus represents what the London ulation owes to country blood. Again, Mr. Galton is emplantic enough in his calcuintiens as to the percentage of the supply of muits (to the next generation) which is represented in rural and city districts respectively. Thus, 1,000 families in rural districts will supply about 2,334 adults to the next generation, widle 1,000 town families will only supply 1,792. The town supply is only 77 per of the country installment, and to the around generation it is only 53 per cent, of the rural contribution. Attacked thus from the side of increase and continuance, we see that the failure of vitality in towns makes itself felton the population question in a very marked Esshion; and this accords with what Mr. Cantlie tells us about the decadence of

Tuking London, typically so called, and excluding districts which are more or less suburban in character, we are told that, com-paring it with healthy districts, the differtince of death rate is at the rate of 9.24 per 1,000 per annum. If now the population of typical Louisn is set down at 2,767,298, we discover that 25,559 lives are thus annually lost in consequence of the conditions which pressed in this dense center of manking. No less startling is the fact that of every 1,000 infants born (I quote from my 'author once again) 112 more disamder 15 years of age in urban London than in healthy districts.

I my to those who argue for healthy Lendon that they represent the healthy units, I mean) the survivers of a very tremendous general mortality. They are the favored few who escape, by reason of their affluence, the dampers and decreneration which beset the It is the old story over again of the visitor to the flums of socity, who said to his guide that the gutter children looked fairly well and stordy. "Yes," replied the guide but these children play on the graves of Their thousand communions who have sue The slums seems to me to hold equally true of the population of every big city we know Is there any remedy, then, I may be asked, for this degeneracy which accompanies city

We may certainly do much to better the eristing state of things, and that according to plain health have. We want the state to take up the question of proper dwellings for the masses, if private enterprise fails to acphilanthrousists to purchase open spaces for respiration of its masses. So, also, we want and especially for the working classes. Greater facilities for cycling, football and other games will stave off physical degeneracy as perhaps nothing else will or can. Best of all, we must teach the masses the laws of health.-Andrew Wilson in London

Thought It Was the Dake.

The Due de Montpensier, who was one of the richest men in Europe, was noted for his closefistedness. It is said that a blind beggar in Paris, having a centime thrown into his hat by a passerby, exclaimed, "Merci, Mon-seigneur!" "Why do you say Monseigneur!" indhired an observer of the scene. "On, the themen who gave me that must have been the Due de Moutpeneler," replied the beggar, -Exchange.

MARK TWAIN EXPLAINS A LECTURE.

A Washington Man Made a Date for the Hemorist Without His Enowiedge. When Mark Twain was in Washington he told a number of interesting incidents and anexistes. A gentleman well known to him that he had once had the pleasure of listening to a feeture of his which was

delivered in this effy twenty years ago.

"Did you?" asked Mark, in that inimit-but the while duay of his "Well, now, Fil have to been-beve tell you something about that lecture. It was a little the hardest and roughest ex perience I ever underwent in my whole career as a lecturer. I came to Washington with no intention whatever of delivering a the no intention whatever of delivering a "I wasn't long in Paris. I was wofully after. I simply came, don't you know, short in Paris."—Chatter,

to meet my friends, see the dty, and keep a little track of what was going on in congress, as do hundreds of people in the course of the winter. This was twenty years ago, you remander.

'Now, I had not been in the city more than a day or two before a friend of mine came to my roots at the hotel early one morning, wakened me out of a sound sleep, and nearly stanned me by asking if I was aware of the fact that I was to deliver a lecture at Lincoln hall that evening. I told him no and that he must be crazy to get out of bed at such an unseemly he to ask such a foolish question. But he soon assured me that he was perfectly same by showing me the morning papers, which all anneunced that Mark Twain was to lecture that evening and that his subject would be 'The Sandwich Islands.' To say that I was surprised would be drawing it mildly. I was mad, for I thought some

one had put up a game on me, "Well, on careful inquiry, I learned that an old theatrical friend of mine thought he would do me a favor. So he made all the necessary arrangements for me to lecture, with the exception of the slight circumstance that he neglected to inform me of any of his intentions. He rented Lincoln hall, billed the town and sent the newspapers advertisements and notices about the coming lecture. And the worst of it was that he had done all his work thoroughly. After learning this I was in a dilemma. I had never prepared any lecture on the Sandwich islands. What was I to do? I could not back out by telling the people that I was unprepared. No, that was out of the question, because the public wouldn't believe it. The billing of the town had been too well done for that. So there was the ideas that it is nothing short of disgrated the ideas that it is nothing short of disgrated was to lock myself in my room and was to lock my lock one of the biggest audiences I ever ad-

"I did not use my manuscript, but in those early days I always had my lecture in writing, and kept it on a reading stand at one side of the place where I stood on the platform. I was very good at memorizing, and rarely had any trouble in speaking without notes; but the very fact that I had my manuscript near at hand where I could readily turn to it without having to undergo the mortification of pulling it from my pocket, gave me courage and kept me from making awkward pauses. But the writing of that Sandwich Island lecture in one day was the toughest job ever put on me."-Washing-

A Miniature Railway in Pekin.

About two years ago they presented a complete ministure railway to the emperor through Li Hung Chang, and the line, which is about three miles long, is laid down within the imperial city. The young emperor is very much interested in its workings, and spends a great deal of his spare time in riding to and fro in the beaugreatly struck with the toy railway, and ary party amongst his advisers were adverse to the miniature line being laid down with-In the precincts of the sacred city, and it was very near returned to the donors. But the government was afraid lest it should give offense to the French, who are greatly feared and respected since they burned and sunk the Chinese fleet at Foochow, and inflicted such disastrous defeats upon the Chinese legions in the south.

In the end the present was accepted, but the high authoritiess would not allow any foreigners to have a hand in laying down or working the model railway. The result was when they started the little engine they could not stop it, and great consternation was occasioned to the occupants in the palace by their inability to control the strange contrivance of the foreigners, which dashed along the line till it was pulled up by coming in contact with a mound of earth. Since then, however, a Chinese driver has been procured, and the emperor is a frequent traveler upon the

She Stared Calmly Ahead.

A young girl, tall, with wide blue eyes, still innocent of evil, got into a Madison avenue car at Eighty-fifth street Sunday She carried in her tap a prayer morning. book and in her hand a novel-one of those paper bound novels with the title standing ut in bald relief. Her expression was so demure that the three men in the car would have sworn she cared more for the prayer book than the novel. At Eightieth street a severe looking man and his wife, both grey haired, took the car. The older man looked across at the young girl, at her novel and prayer book, frowned a little her husband. He was a little deaf, the car made a good deal of upise, so he put his hand to his ear and said. "What!" wife repeated her remark a little louder. and still be could not bear. Finally she shouted in a thin troble so that all the car could hear: "I think it is a sisme to see a a young woman with a Bible and a novel. Her thoughts are all on the novel, and she would better have left the Bible at home." Everybody looked at the girl with the novel, but she stared calmly ahead and pre-tended to have heard nothing.

San Spots and Men's Trousers

An eastern paper has made a remarkable discovery-a connection between sun spots and the tightness or looseness of the fashionable man's trousers. It says: It is a curious fact, and one noticed by but few eminext scientists, that at the time of maxiim spottedness of the sun the trousers of men having a proper regard for the fash-ions are as light as it is possible for trousers to be. Conversely, when, as is now the case, there are no spats to speak of on the sun, the trousers worn by fashion's slaves are wide and flowing in their outline.

In 1883, if the reader can remember styles so far back, the fashion for trousers was very tight, and so it was in 1870-71. At just these periods the sun spots were nt their height of activity, great magnetic storms prevailed and the aurora barcalis was flamboyant in the heavens. Similarly, 1877 was a period of great size in trousers just as the seasons of 1885-89-90 were and are likely to be. As the sun spets grow more frequent and increase in size, the trousers will shrink, until in 1894-25 the spots will be at their maximum and the trousers at their minimum.

Effect of Realism on the Actor.

I know a much respected actor who was the acme of muscular development until he piaved a dramatic hero, who had to be hanged upon the seaffold every night. He told me his sensations were something horrible. To stand upon a trap with you arms bound behind you, a rope around your neck and a black cap over your faceeven the thought of such realism is intimidating. But this man did it night after night, and he scknowledged to me that from the moment the black cap was pulled over his face he was in a semi-conscious state and could feel himself swaying about like a reed in the wind, waiting for the trap to give way and his body receive the thud of being hurled into space. Nightly that man dropped eight feet-suddenly and in political and new spaper circles, on being without warning—and, although be was introduced to this well known author, said strapped with solidly made harness all over his body, to support his weight, yet-supposing one little strap had given way The audience might still have applanded but the melouramatic hero w been-beyond their plaudita.- Duncan B.

> An Expensive Town. 'How long were you in Paris?"

FASHIONS FOR CHILDREN

ONCE THEY NEVER WORE ANY-THING OF DARK COLOR.

Now the Elaborately Stitched and Hemmed and Hand Embroidered White Garments of the Past Are Almost Entirely Abandoned. [Special Correspondence.]

New York, May 1 .- It is not so very many years ago that children wore no dark colors at all. No color or tint was too delicate for them, and the mother who put a dark frock or cloak upon her child was considered far more hard hearted than Pharach and more economical than loving, but she was bound down to backache and sideache from the extra labor entailed on keeping her little girls always sweet and clean in the delicate dresses. It was not uncommon to see a little child dressed for ordinary occasions in a white cashinere which had been laboriously embroidered by hand, and if it was hard on the mother it was no less hard on the child, for no freedom could be allowed a child for natural, healthy play.



TRIS DRESS AND HUBBARD CLOAK. But now all that is changed, and there is no color that mothers wear that is not fit for the little girls, and fashionable,

The benefit of this system is that there is not so much work to keep the children clean, and the children are happier and healthier, because they can play without restraint, and it is far more economical in several ways.

Of course there will always be occa- equal an inch in thickness! sions for a white dress made as daintily as mother love can devise and mothmade of soft white mull, embroidered deeply around the bottom and worn over a pink wash silk slip, with a tiny plaiting around the bottom, just showing under the edge of the mull. A bash of the same silk crosses the waist and is tied in an enormous bow at the back. The eleeves are puffed over silk and with deep cuffs and bretelles of embroidery. Blue corn color, old gold or Eiffel red can all be used for the slip if preferred.

And the dear little coaxing sister! She is going out with grandma in a little Hubbard cloak of brown and fawn striped cheviot and a big poke bonnet all of seal brown straw and plumes. The little coat has for its only trimming a row of tucks surmounted by a herring bone in | will cost just six cents each, and will last a saddler's silk. Not at all gay or elaborate, but oh, how quaint and sweet the

little maiden looks in it! "A quiver full" of dear little children is to be desired, but it has its drawbacks, particularly when Bobby is always needing shoes and Minnie and Nellie stockings, hats, etc. The best way to dress them is to give Bobby a pretty little kilt suit of serge or cheviot or heavy blue flannel, made with a blouse, and socks and stout boots. A toreador hat is just now the style for him, with a triple co-

carde at the left side. Get Minnie a Tartan plaid and make it on the bias, and trim it with a row of open castle or Hercules braid, with a sash of the same, and dress her doll with the scraps left over. Give studious Nelis a quiet little gown of dark blue flannel, neatly made with the front of surah, which was all the best part of big sister Mabel's last year's dress, and you will find your little ones well dressed and very economically dressed, too.

Ginghams are as strong as iron and fadeless as the sky; therefore ginghams are good for boys and girls to wear for spring and summer, where laundry work does not count. Where it does, light woolens are better and quite as cool, though not quite so summery looking. But nothing suits a boy so well as a saller suit, with gilt braid, an embroidered anchor and "real sailor buttons" with a foul anchor on them. I am sorry to relate that while mothers would like to keep the pretty and picturesque Fauntleroy suits on their boys, these latter turn up their noses and mutter "chestnuta" scornfully.



A QUIVER FULL OF THEM. Little girls, of course, wouldn't do such a thing, but they are all in favor of the shorter skirts, as they, too, are a little tired of the Empire and Sara Crewe style. The waists to the summer gingbams, chambreys and lawns, as well as

Never touch a vine that has three fingered leaves; that is, haves divided into three parts. Vinesthat show five fingered leaves may be handled with safety. Paisce by has tricity. Correspondence solicited. Consultations free.

K. F. PURDY, M. D.

sides with the bark left on the fourth side. A eranda is constructed on three sides of the

building of hemlock logs in the rough. The bolo flower, discovered by Dr. Schadenberg growing upon a volcanio mountain in one of the Philippine islands, is perhaps the largest flower in existence, being about three feet in diameter and tweaty-two pounds in weight

A modification of Edison's phonograph is said to have been devised by a painter in Milan. It costs under \$20 and the wax cylinders are reproduced in zinc by the galvano plastic process at a cost of five cents each, selling price.

An engineer on theiron Mountain road has perfected an automatic bell ringer on his lomotive, and now, when running in corporation limits, or whenever the bell must be rung, he just jerks a spring and the bell is kept going by steam power till he turns off the steam.

An extraordinary feat in telephoning was recently accomplished between St. Peters burg and Bologne, a distance of 2,485 miles. Conversation was kept up, not withstanding a rather high induction. The Russian engineers propose to converse by telephone over a distance of 4,665 miles A professor in the University of Klausen

burg claims to have compounded a solution which completely neutralizes the poison introduced into the system by the bite of a mad dog. This solution consists of chlorine water, salt brine, sulphurons acid, perman ganate of potassium and eucalyptus oil. A curious fact is noticed in connection with

the formation of burnneles on ships' bottoms. In the majority of cases there is a much heavier growth of grass and barnacles on one side than on the other, and in numerous in-stances one side will be almost free from marine growths while the other is as foul as

During one of the snow storms of the past winter in the Rocky mountains nineteen engines were required for one train, which was made up as follows: First a snow plow, with nine engines behind it, then a train of nine cars with another five engines, and behind this five engines with a gang of men to dig the train out should it get stuck.

A mustache trainer has appeared. It is an elastic, curved strip of thin metal, at either end of which is secured an adjustable plate, faced on the inner side with soft cloth, in order that the machine may comfortably clasp the ends of the mustacke. The latter is carefully arranged at night or during periods of seclusion and the trainer fixed upon it,

There is a firm in Circinnati which each years beats 21,000 gold dollars into gold leaf, and as each dollar can be beat into a sheet that will carpet two rooms 1854 feet square, some idea may be formed of its tenuity. It requires 1,400 sheets of gold leaf to equal in thickness a sheet of writing paper, and takes 250,000 of them, piled one upon the other, to

The largest sailing ship in the world is in the possession of France. She is a vessel with er's tireless patience can accomplish. five masts, on four of which aquaresail is Such an one is the pretty little Iris dress carried. The length is 344 feet, with a beam of forty-nine feet. The cargo, which the France could carry is 61,000 tons. The ship is built of steel, her maste and yards being of the same material. She is at present trading between France and the Pacific.

Buy Good Kitchen Towels.

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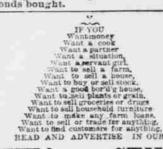
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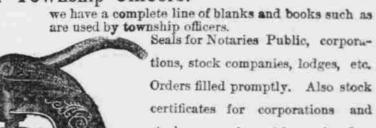
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